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# Status of Libyan Surface-to-Air Missile Sites (S)

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## STATUS OF LIBYAN SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILE SITES (S)

### INTRODUCTION

1. (S/WN) This report discusses the status of Libyan surface-to-air missile (SAM) sites through [ ] with information on SAM systems and new SAM deployments and tactics. Sixteen operational SAM sites have been newly identified in Libya (Figure 1) since [ ]. The newly identified sites include six SA-2, seven SA-3, and three SA-6. In addition, since the beginning of 1982, seven decoy SAM sites have been identified and SA-8 equipment has been observed. This increase in Libyan SAM defenses, more than 20 percent, suggests a national concern about potential air attack, possibly precipitated by the Gulf of Sidra incident in August 1981 or the Israeli bombing of the Iraqi reactor in June 1981. The report includes four location maps.

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2. (S/WN) Libya has more than 70 permanent and field-deployed SAM sites, including SA-2, SA-3, SA-6, SA-9, and Crotale (Figures 2 through 4). The SAM defenses, concentrated predominantly on the Mediterranean littoral, surround major military airfields and large population centers.

### DISCUSSION

3. (S/WN) Eighteen operational SA-2 sites have been identified in Libya since 1973. The sites are concentrated in the major population areas of Tarabulus, Banghazi, and Tubruq. Although a few sites are field deployed, the SA-2 system is most frequently deployed in permanent sites.

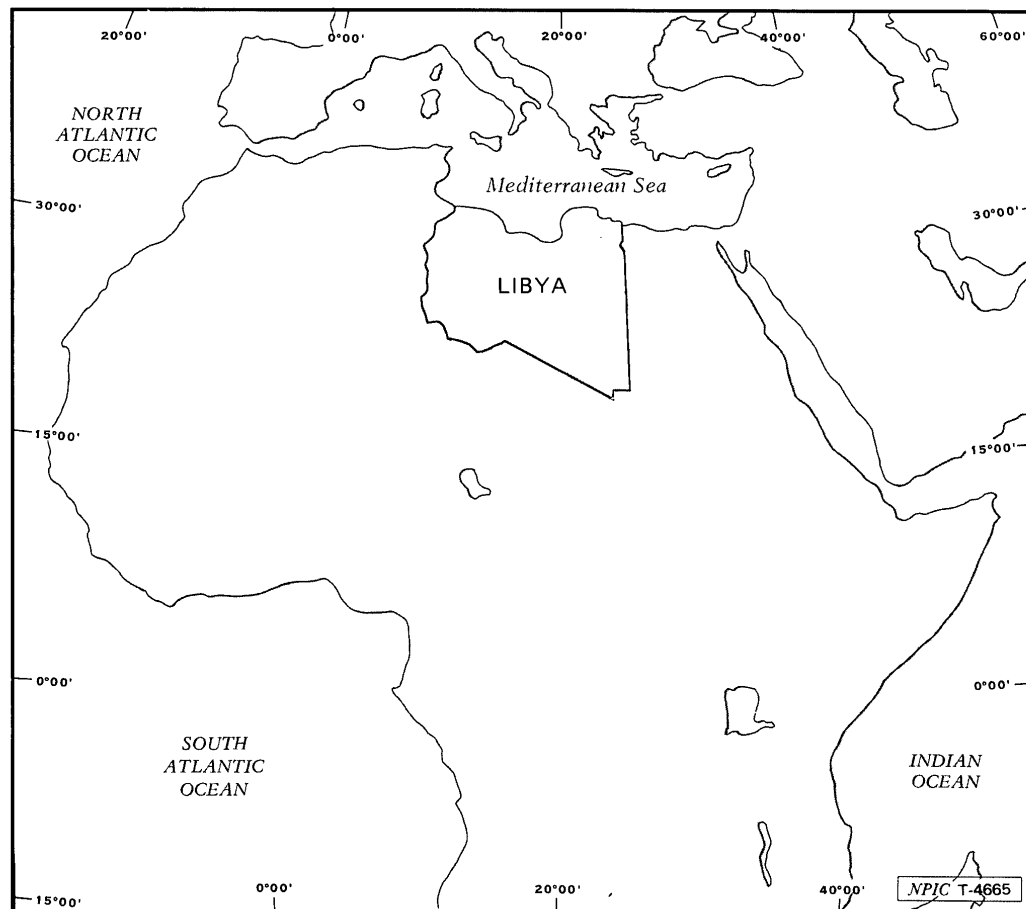


FIGURE 1. LOCATION MAP OF LIBYA

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4. (S/WN) Since 1974, the SA-3 system has been the most frequently deployed SAM defense in Libya; 29 sites were operational in July 1982. Concentrated in the coastal regions, the SA-3 equipment is in permanent SA-2-configured sites or is field deployed. Libya has only the four-rail launcher in its inventory. Each site consists of three four-rail launchers. However, some sites are equipped with a fourth launcher for training purposes.

5. (S/WN) The SA-6 system is usually observed in regimental strength at SA-6 support facilities; however, 12 tactically deployed SA-6 sites have been identified in Libya since 1974. Since the SA-6 is a highly mobile and transient system, a site is not identified until some degree of permanency is established. Frequently, SA-6 batteries are field deployed for training.

6. (S/WN) The first identification of the SA-8 system in Libya was at Tarabulus Military Installation East-Southeast [ ] in January 1982. The installation houses a major training facility for all types of SAM equipment. An SA-8 battery was observed at Tarabulus SAM Support Facility (BE [ ]) The SA-8 system has not yet been tactically deployed in Libya.

7. (S/WN) The SA-9, like the SA-6, is a highly mobile system. Six SA-9 sites have been identified since 1978.

8. (S/WN) Crotale batteries have been observed at four locations in the Tarabulus area since 1973. One of these batteries is deployed at a hardened SAM site.

9. (S/WN) Seven decoy SAM sites have been identified in Libya. They are El Uotia SA-3 SAM Site (BE [ ]) Tarabulus SA-3 Site Tajura [ ], Tubruq SAM Site Southeast [ ], Tubruq SA-3 Site South [ ], Tubruq SAM Site East [ ], Tubruq SA-2 Site East [ ] and Okba Ibn Nafa SAM Site Northeast [ ]. The four SA-3 and three SA-2 decoy sites may be occupied by actual SAM equipment (possibly derelict) or dummy equipment. Each decoy site lacked the support equipment, ground scarring for cables, and acquisition radars necessary for an operational site. Each decoy SAM site was deployed near an operational and identical system.

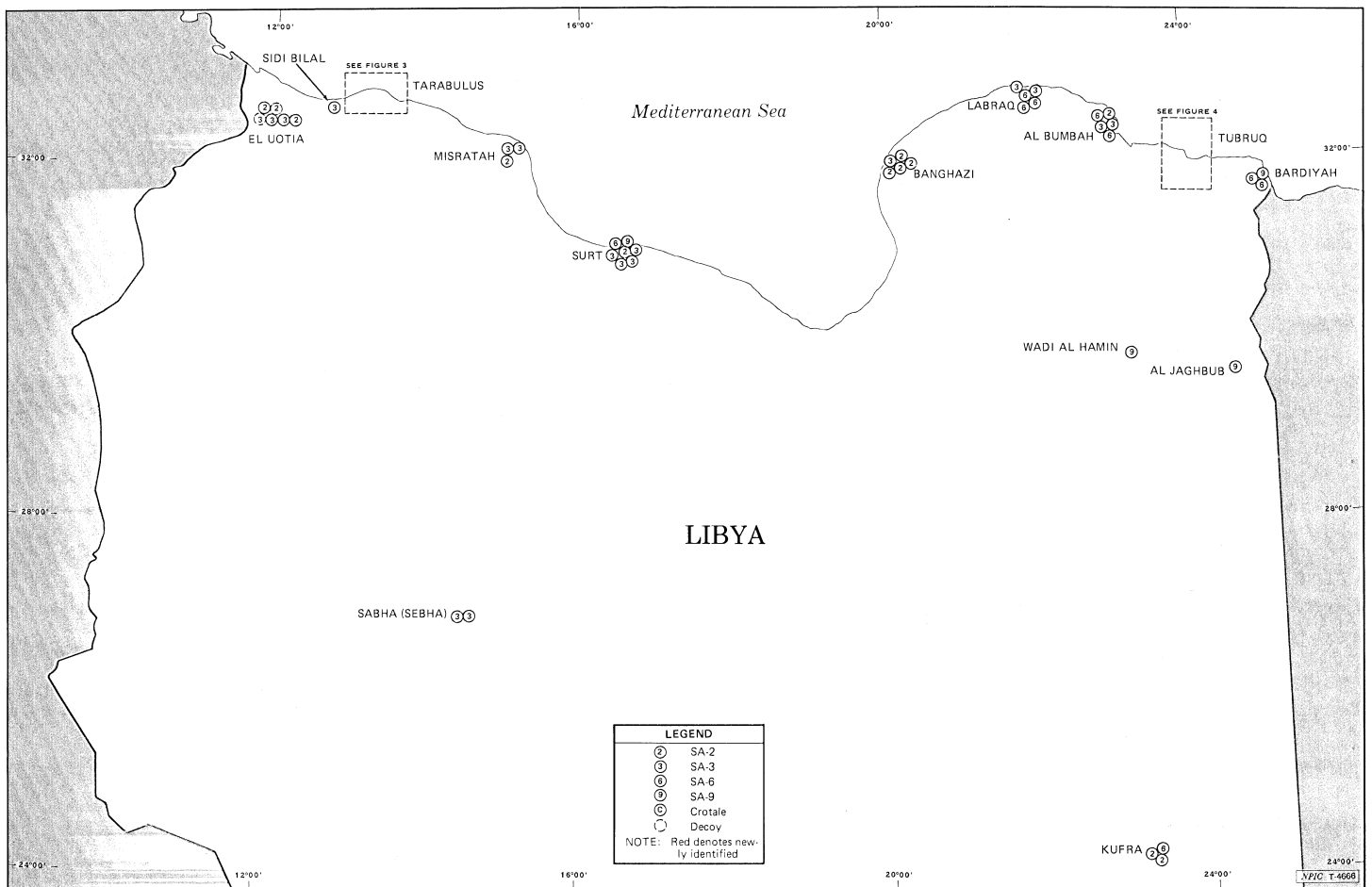
**REFERENCES****IMAGERY**

(S/WN) All applicable satellite imagery acquired from 1973 through [ ] was used in the preparation of this report.

**MAPS OR CHARTS**

DoD. Joint Operations Graphic; Series 1501; Sheets NH 34-4 and 35-1, NI 33-13 and 34-16; scale 1:250,000 (Distribution Restricted; Distribution Limited)

(S) Comments and queries regarding this report are welcome. They may be directed to [ ] Third World Forces Division, Imagery Exploitation Group, NPIC, [ ]



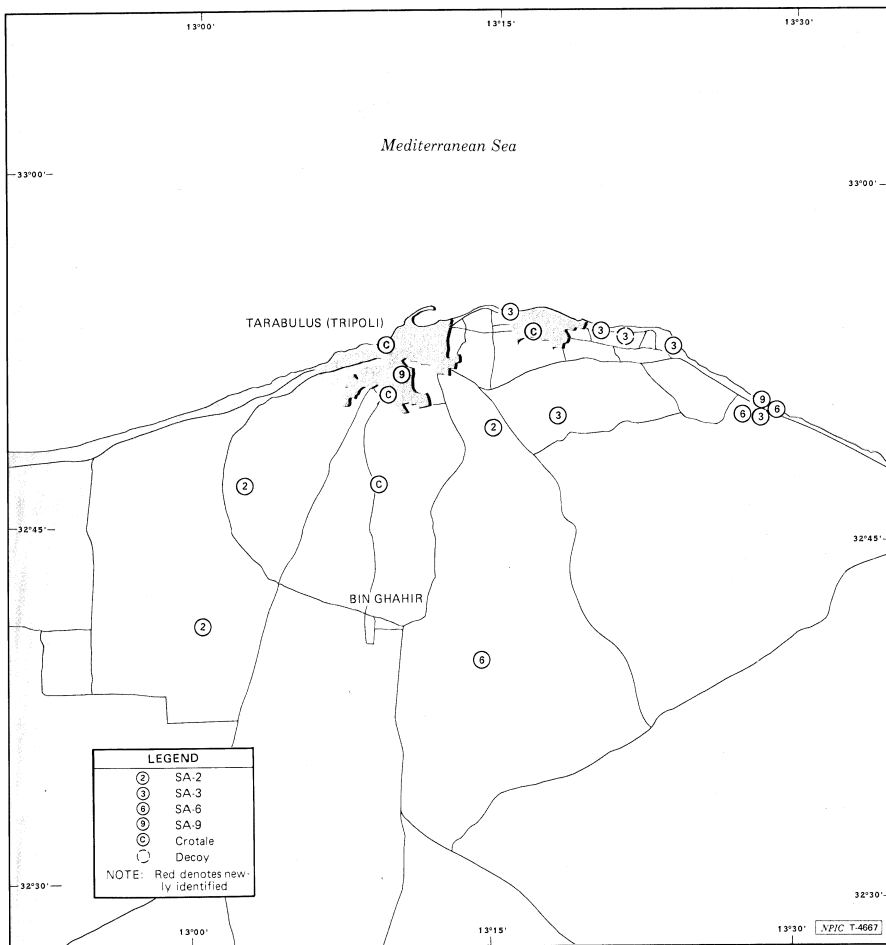


FIGURE 3. SAM DEPLOYMENT IN THE TARABULUS AREA

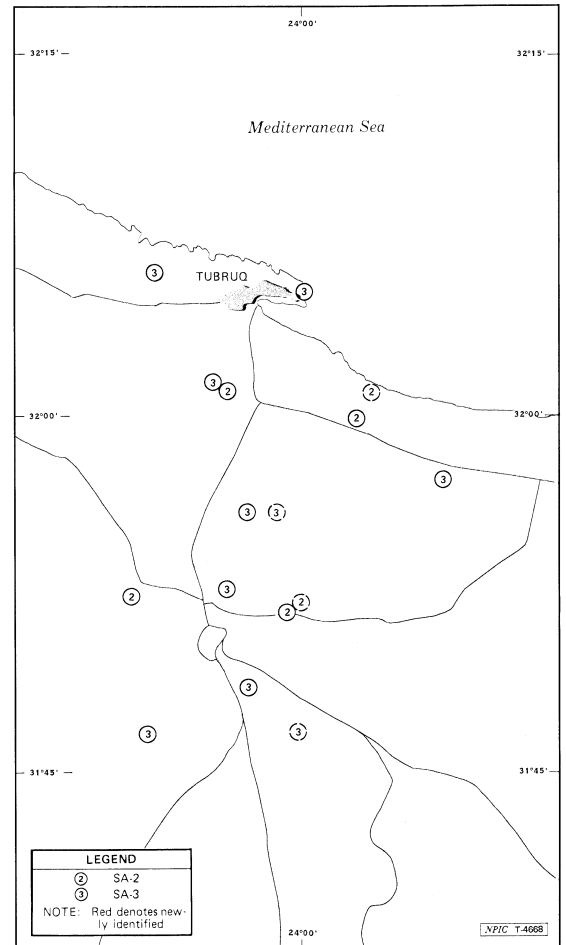


FIGURE 4. SAM DEPLOYMENT IN THE TUBRUQ AREA

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